



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/812,252	03/29/2004	John W. Rohrer		2743

7590 01/31/2007
John W. Rohrer
Rohrer Technologies, Inc.
5 Long Cove Rd.
York, ME 03909

EXAMINER

BLAU, STEPHEN LUTHER

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

3711

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/31/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

NT

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/812,252	Applicant(s) ROHRER, JOHN W.	
	Examiner Stephen L. Blau	Art Unit 3711	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 December 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 December 2006 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The amendment filed 1 December 2006 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132(a) because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132(a) states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows:

a. In claim 1 the forward extending section connecting at the forward end of said forward extending section to a straight or bent shaft via a hosel, hole, rod socket or other shaft connecting means.

b. In claim 1 the forward extending section connecting near the forward end of said forward extending section to a straight or bent shaft via an other shaft connecting means. Other connecting means has never been disclosed before.

c. In claims 3, and 5-6 also disclose a "said shaft connecting means". In these claims this structure must be referring to the "other shaft connection means" in that is the only mention of a connecting means. This term has been considered new matter as stated above.

The original specification never disclosed how to connect a shaft at a front end of a forward extending section. It only briefly talked about replacing the hosel sections (3,4) with a bent shaft. But no mention was made how this bent shaft would be connected to the forward end of the forward extending section. The original

Art Unit: 3711

specification only disclosed the forward extending section connecting near the forward end of said forward extending section to a shaft via a rod or socket.

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Specification

2. The disclosure stands objected to because of the following informalities:

a. Reference number 10 is referred to as the "rearward extending sight line" (page 7 lines 20 and 25, Page 8 line 7), "horizontal plane upper surface" (page 8, lines 9 and 12), and "the upper horizontal rearward sight line extension surfaces" (Page 9, lines 1-2). One reference number cannot have two different part names. It causes confusion.

b. Reference number 11 is referred to as the "sight line" (page 7 lines 18, 22,) and the "horizontal plane surface" (Page 8, lines 9). One reference number cannot have two different part names. It causes confusion.

c. Reference numbers 16-17 have the same problem in the specification. They are called "levels", "sight lines" and "surfaces". The applicant needs to pick one name for each reference number and be consistent with it throughout the specification. One reference number cannot have two different part names. It causes confusion.

d. Reference number 1 is referred to as the "centerline forward extending hosel" (Page 7 line 9, Page 8, line 1) and the "forward hosel extension" (Page 7, line 14) and

the "forward extending section" (Page 7, line 19, Page 8, line 10). One reference number cannot have two different part names. It causes confusion.

Due to the numerous names given to numerous reference numbers the examiner recommends the applicant go through the entire specification and ensure there is only one name give to each reference number.

Drawings

3. The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the forward extending section connects at or near the forward end of the forward extending section to a straight or bent shaft via a hosel, hole, socket or other shaft connecting means via a shaft connecting means in claim 1 must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No new matter should be entered. The figures 1-7 only show the embodiment of a forward extending section (1) connecting near the forward end of the forward extending section to a shaft (5) via a rod (30). The Examiner is of the opinion that the applicant is trying to get too much coverage in claim 1 which was not shown in the drawings and/or described sufficiently in the specification. The examiner believes having words as -- a forward extending section connects at or near a forward end of said forward extending section to a shaft to the player side... -- would be accurate to what is shown in the drawings and also cover all the possibilities of connections as mentioned in the specification. To be more narrow having words specifically showing

Art Unit: 3711

what is in the drawings could be added as -- a forward extending section connecting near a forward end of the forward extending section to a shaft via a rod to the player side This is what is specifically shown in figures 1-7. The examiner is of the opinion that if more drawings are added to show each of these different embodiments of a socket, hole, bent shaft, etc... it may be new matter in that the specifics of these connecting means were never disclosed previously. Any amendments to change to the words as suggested above may also result in the Examiner needing to make a new search or considerations of the new elements of structure added to the claims.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

4. The replacement drawings filed 1 December 2006 have been approved.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 1 is indefinite in that the terms "other shaft connecting means" is indefinite. It is uncertain what the bounds of this limit is. In addition, the specification does not provide proper antecedent basis for this limitation in the claims. Also in claim 1 it is uncertain what the different is between a hosel, hole or socket. The original specification only discloses attaching a shaft with either a socket or rod.

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 1-11 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, the new matter objections set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. None of the prior art discloses or renders as obvious a putterhead having a forward extending

Art Unit: 3711

section extending generally horizontally forward from the top of a strikeface, a shaft connected to a player side of a forward extending section near a forward end, an unobstructed sight or aim line toward a target, a rearward putterhead extension being in the same vertical plane as the forward extending hosel section, a rearward putterhead extension from a putter face a distance of at least twice a hosel sight line in addition to the other elements of structure claimed.

8. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Conclusion

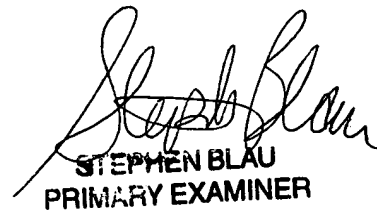
Art Unit: 3711

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stephen L. Blau whose telephone number is (571) 272-4406. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri 10:00 AM - 6:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Eugene Kim can be reached on (571) 272-4463. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Slb/ 23 January 2007


STEPHEN BLAU
PRIMARY EXAMINER